

2125/81 25X1

Approved For Release 2004/12/22 : CIA-RDP83M00171R001500160007-8

Approved For Release 2004/12/22 : CIA-RDP83M00171R001500160007-8

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: HUMINT Assessment Coordination Group - Meeting, Spring 1981

1. On 29 June 1981 the officers in the Intelligence Community who are directly responsible for carrying out or planning assessment of human source reporting met for the 4th time, as the Assessment Coordination Group (ACG). There was roundtable presentation of the experience gained in assessing the human source response to national tasking under the first 10 HUMINT Tasking Plans, one year after their issuance. Specifically, the Group was concerned with reviewing the operation of the semi-centralized approach to evaluating HUMINT.

2. Attendees:

--	--

NFAC/CRES
NSA (observer)

3. The review of experience brought out the following main points:

- a. The feedback obtained from consumers through interviewing has combined with reporting records to provide adequate basis for updating HUMINT Tasking Plans.
- b. Interviewing has involved much variety in approach, and no complaints have been received about overloading the consumer.
- c. Variety in methodology has included one-on-one interviewing, group-on-one, and group with group of consumers. Use of report listings in interview sessions has varied with the circumstances of time and consumer interest.
- d. On the whole, consumers have participated enthusiastically in the assessment process, often preparing in advance of interviews and following up with written contributions to: update of the Collection Problem Statements; refinement of the collection objectives, and change in the tasking.
- e. Coordination of the interviewing among the assessment organizations and officers making up the ACG has gone smoothly, as has the process of arranging interviews directly, or through liaison offices. When consumers have been found to be under particular pressure, interviewing has been postponed.

- f. HTO has continued to draw usefully upon the results of consumer interviewing done regularly by CIA/DDO/EPDS for its own purposes. FBIS and DIA have obtained useful feedback from interviewing also done for their own purposes, and have made this available to HTO in the same way, to support central tasking. State/INR has used analysts as interviewers. State has reiterated its call for avoidance of any duplication with the FOCUS and Critical Countries programs.
- g. The assessment process is surfacing fundamental issues that are screened for importance by HTO and addressed in Issues Memoranda that go to the Chairman, HRC. These are based upon the detailed notes taken in interviews, and pertinent portions of the memoranda are checked with the agencies concerned. In some cases the issues have been brought to the attention of the DDCI or the DCI.
- h. The interview channel is being used by consumers to pursue persistent problems with dissemination of reporting that they hope can be dealt with in some effective way, possibly through the HRC.

4. The NSA observer reported on that agency's evaluation activities, with highlights as follows:

- a. The NSA evaluation program is designed to measure not only the SIGINT response to users' needs but the entire chain from requirements to collection, and on to processing and reporting.
- b. Initially, reporting is being tied to individual requirements, and this process has been computerized. Development of a consumer feedback system is under way, with an initial questionnaire having already been used for procedural purposes.
- c. Consideration is also being given to the feasibility of establishing a cost analysis program to determine what resources are targetted against which requirements. It is planned eventually to get into evaluation of processing and analysis. Interviewing associated with NSA evaluation will not start for some time yet.

5. The sense of the Group was that the semi-centralized approach to HUMINT assessment should proceed as it is developing. It was agreed to meet again in 3-4 months.



25X1